

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

HA-05 IO-13 AID-05 /091 W

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P R 281605Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3627

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 3079

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PA

SUBJECT: LAINO CASE: WOLA REPRESENTATIVES LEAVE

REF: ASUNCION 3022

1. WOLA REPRESENTATIVES WILLIAM BROWN AND JO MARIE GRIESGRABER LEFT ASUNCION AFTERNOON AND EVENING OF JULY 27 FOR THE U.S. AND LA PAZ RESPECTIVELY. THEY WERE UNABLE TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OTHER THAN A JUSTICE MINISTRY OFFICIAL WHO TOLD THEM THEY COULD NOT VISIT DOMINGO LAINO UNTIL SUNDAY, JULY 30 AT THE EARLIEST. EFFORTS TO MEET INTERIOR MINISTRY SUB-SECRETARY DR. BESTARD AND JUSTICE AND LABOR MINISTER GONZALEZ WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. ALL SENIOR OFFICIALS WERE SAID TO BE "OUT OF TOWN". BOTH MONTANARO AND GONZALEZ WERE PRESENT AT INAUGURAL CEREMONIES AT THE MILITARY GEOGRAPHICAL INSTITUTE IN ASUNCION JULY 27 MORNING.

2. VISIT BY WOLA REPRESENTATIVES HAS DEEPLY UNDERCUT NEW POLICE ALLEGATIONS IN THE CHARGE SHEET AGAINST DOMINGO LAINO. PRESS COVERAGE OF VISIT WAS EXTENSIVE AND SUCCEEDED IN REVIVING INTEREST IN LAINO'S CASE WHICH THE GOP HOPED IT HAD BURIED UNDER LEGALITIES. IN AN ARTICLE JULY 26, "ULTIMA HORA" POINTED OUT THAT, ACCORDING TO NORMAL LEGAL PROCEDURES, THE POLICE HAVE TO PRODUCE NEW EVIDENCE IN ORDER TO REOPEN A PREVIOUS CASE  
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WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED BY THE COURTS. WOLA REPRESENTATIVES' PUBLIC STATEMENTS, ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, APPEAR TO CONTRADICT THE POLICE CHARGES COMPLETELY AND RAISE DOUBT ABOUT HIS RE-TRIAL.

3. COLORADO PARTY'S "PATRIA" CARRIED EDITORIAL JULY 27 WHICH COULD SAY LITTLE MORE THAN THAT WOLA DID NOT UNDERSTAND

"PARAGUAYAN REALITY". IF CLAIMED IT WAS WRONG TO SAY LAINO HAD BEEN ARRESTED SIMPLY BECAUSE HE HAD VISITED THE U.S. BECAUSE FACT IS HE WAS ALREADY INVOLVED IN JUDICIAL PROCESS (UNDER THE FEBREISTA CASE IN 1975). MEANWHILE, GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED COLORADO PARTY RADIO NEWS BROADCAST JULY 26, WHILE REFLECTING THE SAME "PATRIA" LINE, WAS FILLED WITH PERSONAL INSINUATIONS AGAINST MS. GRIESGRABER AND ACCUSED HER OF OFFICIOUS MEDDLING IN INTERNAL PARAGUAYAN AFFAIRS. COLORADO PARTY BROADCAST OF JULY 27 ATTACKED WOLA AS A MERE TAX SHELTER CREATED BY PEOPLE OF A "DUBIOUS POLITICAL LINE". IN A SPEECH ATTENDED BY PRESIDENT STROESSNER JULY 27, GENERAL ABED, DIRECTOR OF THE PARAGUAYAN MAPPING INSTITUTE WITH WHICH THE USG HAS COLLABORATED FOR MAY YEARS, LUMPED WOLA AND AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TOGETHER AS ELEMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.

4. PARAGUAYAN POLICE KEPT PERSON JACARANDA WHERE WOLA REPRESENTATIVES WERE STAYING UNDER SURVEILLANCE FROM EVENING OF JULY 25, FOLLOWING PRESS CONFERENCE THERE. THIS CREATED CONSIDERABLE NERVOUSNESS AMONG THE WOLA REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PEOPLE WITH WHOM THEY WERE MEETING. HOWEVER, NO UNTOWARD INCIDENTS OCCURRED AND THE POLICEMEN "IN RESIDENCE" TOLD MS. GRIESGRABER THAT THEY WERE MERELY THERE TO PROTECT THEM.

5. LA PAZ IS INFO ADDRESSEE BECAUSE MS. GRIESGRABER PLANS TO SPEND NEXT SEVERAL DAYS THERE. SHE TOLD US SHE DOES NOT  
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PLAN TO GO THE EMBASSY BUT WE BELIEVE AMBASSADOR BOEKER SHOULD BE AWARE OF HER PRESENCE.  
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## Message Attributes

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Sheryl P. Walter  
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